

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ROME 09988 211013Z

13

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 IO-13 ISO-00 CAB-09 CIAE-00 COME-00

DODE-00 EB-11 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 FAA-00 SY-10

USSS-00 DOTE-00 OIC-04 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 NEA-10

DRC-01 SSO-00 INRE-00 SS-15 NSC-10 NSCE-00 /160 W
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O R 210940Z SEP 73

FM AMEMBASSY ROME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 903

INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

C O N F I D E N T I A L ROME 9988

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ICAO, ETRN

SUBJECT: ICAO AIR SECURITY CONFERENCE: ASSEMBLY PLENARY
MEETING SEPT 20.

MONTREAL FOR US REP ICAO

PLS PASS LITTELL/CAB; DRISCOLL/DOT; STEWART/FAA

1. THIS MESSAGE WHICH FOLLOWS USDEL'S DETAILED REPORT ON
CONFERENCE AND ASSEMBLY MEETINGS SEPT. 20 CONTAINS BRIEF
OVERVIEW OF SITUATION IN ASSEMBLY WHICH MET FROM 8:30 PM
TO 1:45 AM.

2. AT OUTSET IT WAS APPARENT THAT STRONG ARAB PRESSURES
ON EAST AFRICAN DELS HAD BACKFIRED SINCE ZAMBIA MADE FIRST
APPEARANCE AT ASSEMBLY TO GIVE OTHER EAST AFRICAN DELS
VOTING SUPPORT.

3. AFTER DEBATE REOPENED AMENDMENT PROPOSED TO 79 QUATER
BY SEVERAL LATIN AMERICAN DELS LED BY COLOMBIA PRODUCED
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PAGE 02 ROME 09988 211013Z

HEATED REACTION BY ARAB DELS (BAHRAIN DEL CALLED IT A

"CLEVER MANEUVER IF NOT MISCHIEVOUS", WHICH DREW VIOLENT REACTION FROM COLOMBIAN DEL). THIS PRODUCED APOLOGY ON BEHALF OF ALL ARAB DELS TO LATIN AMERICAN COSPONSORS OF AMENDMENT BUT IT APPEARED THAT LINES HAD BEEN DRAWN AND REQUESTED THAT BAHRAIN-COLOMBIAN EXCHANGE BE DELETED FROM RECORD. THIS WAS DONE AFTER BAHRAIN AND COLOMBIAN DEL SO AGREED.

4. IN ATMOSPHERE WHICH PREVAILED THEREAFTER IN ASSEMBLY IT WAS UNNECESSARY FOR USDEL TO MAKE ANY INTERVENTIONS OR TO CAST ANY NEGATIVE VOTES.

5. DEBATE GENERALLY FOCUSED UPON DISPUTES BETWEEN ARABS AND FRENCH ON ONE HAND AND LATIN AMERICANS, ISRAELIS AND EAST AFRICANS ON OTHER. BY TIME VOTES HELD ABSENCES OF REGISTERED DELS FROM ASSEMBLY RESULTED IN 24 ABSTENTIONS OR NEGATIVE VOTES BECOMING BLOCKING THIRD.

6. RESULTS AS HAVE BEEN REPORTED WERE THAT COLOMBIAN AMENDMENT ADOPTED BY SIMPLE MAJORITY BUT TEXT OF ARTICLE FAILED TO RECEIVE REQUISITE TWO THIRDS. ORIGINAL ARTICLE WITH MINOR CHANGES THEN FAILED TO ACHIEVE TWO THIRDS AND ANOTHER AMENDED VERSION PROPOSED BY TANZANIA ANALOGOUS TO COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL ALSO FAILED ACHIEVE REQUISITE TWO THIRDS. EAST BLOC (WITH ASSORTED FOLLOWERS SUCH AS CUBA) ABSTAINED ON EVERY ASSEMBLY VOTE.

7. FAILURE OF ASSEMBLY TO ADOPT 79 QUATER MADE 79 QUINTUM AND SEXTUM UNATTRACTIVE TO A NUMBER OF ARAB DELS WHICH ENSURED ABSENCE OF STATUTORY MAJORITY FOR THESE TWO ARTICLES WHICH WERE VOTED ON AS A PACKAGE. UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES USDEL HAS SOUGHT NO NEED PROPOSE ALTERATION OF NUMBER IN QUINTUM AND SEXTUM FROM 86 TO 40 AND AS REPORTED ABOVE REMAINED SILENT THROUGHOUT ENTIRE ASSEMBLY PROCEEDINGS. FIRST TWO ARTICLES (79 BIS AND TER) WERE THEN VOTED ON AS A PACKAGE AND FAILED TO CARRY FOR SAME REASONS.

8. DURING COURSE OF PROCEEDINGS US NEVER CAST ISOLATED VOTE AND VOTED AFFIRMATIVELY WITH MOST LATIN AMERICANS AND EUROPEAN DELS IN FAVOR OF AMENDED VERSION OF QUATER
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PAGE 03 ROME 09988 211013Z

PROPOSED BY COLOMBIA.

9. THOUGH USDEL WAS NOT AWARE OF LATIN AMERICAN INITIATIVE UNTIL OUTSET OF ASSEMBLY MEETING, MANY DELS CONSIDERED US TO HAVE BEEN RESPONSIBLE FOR COLOMBIAN PROPOSAL AS MEANS OF ENSURING FAILURE OF 79 QUATER, QUINTUM AND SEXTUM. USDEL DOES NOT INTEND TO TAKE ANY CREDIT FOR THIS PROPOSAL SHOULD IT BE QUESTIONED. VOLPE

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